
CONNECTION

Our Savior Lutheran Church

Mesquite, TX

May 2025

CLERGY COSPLAY?

Cool Clergy Casual? Baby Boomer Button Down? Hospital Call Collar? Ivy League Attire?

So many choices.

Every morning, I fret about what to wear to the office. Well, not really, because these days office apparel doesn't really matter—unless, of course, it's the Oval Office! The Oval Office demands respect. At stake are treaties and tariffs, wars and weaponry, foreign aid and alliances, even World Peace! The gravity of those discussions demands serious sartorial selections—a suit and tie at the very least.

That's why Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelensky's Oval Office visit turned out to be such a disaster. Black sweater and jacket. Plain black slacks and the shoes of a laborer. "Who does he think he is, dressing like that," asked a reporter? After which Donald Trump and J.D. Vance gave him a real dressing down, leaving him uncovered and humiliated in full view of the world.

But just as shockingly, the very people who set the standards for office apparel seem to violate long-accepted clothing etiquette themselves. Donald Trump stuck out amidst a sea of black with his blue suit and royal blue tie. (No foul here. It was just the funeral of Pope Francis.) But back to the Oval Office ...

Elon Musk, saluting the President, flashed the bare mid-riff look underneath his fashionable DOGE t-shirts. Kid Rock made Oval Office history in a flamboyant red jump suit with sequined stars and rhinestone-studded flames. (While Dennis Rodman blushed, Prince rolled over in his grave.) Most astonishingly, though, was Salvadoran President Nayib Bukele wearing an almost identical Zelinsky-style black sweater under a dark jacket ... and he was not reprimanded at all. (Perhaps because less formal wear is acceptable when discussing the construction of 5 new concentration-style prison camps.) (Indian President Modi didn't wear a tie in the Oval Office, but he surmised that the length of Donald Trump's tie more than made up for it.)

In the midst of such mixed stylistic messages, where can you go for advice? Kristi Noem seems to wear just the right look with appropriate apparel for every raid, arrest, or incarceration. And Donald Trump's ubiquitous MAGA baseball cap might just cover every social situation.

Perhaps history can give us better perspective. In 1942, Winston Churchill wore overalls to the Oval Office. 'My country is at war and this is no time for dress up,' he concluded ... an attitude with which Zelensky would whole-heartedly concur.

So just what is the proper way to dress in the presence of royalty? Jesus' robe was soiled with dirt and marked with blood when he stood in Pilate's palace. He too was dressed down—humiliated with torn rags of cloth and wounded flesh. Jesus didn't follow office etiquette or make any fashion statement at all. But he did make a statement—a statement for heads of state and for dregs of society, for Popes and Cardinals and lowly Lutheran pastors. Jesus can cover us in grace so that we might be clothed in righteousness. So that when we come before the throne of God someday in the Oval Office of heaven, whether in torn jeans or a Versace suit, a black sweater or Churchill overalls, we will all finally be given the "white robes" of eternal life to wear forever.



Every morning, I fret about what to wear to the office. And then I consider the lilies of the field who put Solomon's sartorial splendor to shame. I look at John the Baptist in his smelly camel skin loincloth. And there's Adam and Eve—no longer naked and ashamed—but proudly wearing handmade sweaters, knitted by God herself. Haute couture, indeed!



Reveling in Revelation

How can we turn the Book of Revelation from a hot bed of conspiracy theories to a hope-filled promise for our world? How can we stop the manipulation of Revelation from a book of fear to a book of faith? By joining the Sages for All Ages group on **Wednesdays in May at 10:30am** as we tackle the mysterious codes and colors and creatures as well as the mysterious number 7. Rather than turning Revelation into a crystal ball to predict the future, we'll all play the role of code breaker to meet the present-day with the promise of God's ultimate victory over sin and death. You won't have to worry about the number 666 anymore because God has a thousand times more blessings to share with us in studying this revealing book. All are welcome. Come join us in the quad "fellowship" room.

Save the Date for a Wedding...

... Martin Luther's Wedding, that is. We're planning on a grand celebration of the 500th anniversary of wedlock for Katharina von Bora and Martin Luther **June 22nd at 4:30pm**. There will be a wedding cake, of course, along with all the potluck goodies that you'd like to share. Come help us cheer on the newlyweds on their 500th year of marital bliss! Sign up in the centrum.



Table Talk: Learning from History



When Martin Luther gathered with his colleagues and students, they would regularly discuss the events of the world in the light of the Gospel. It was unstructured, open-ended, and light-hearted. We're using that model for a Monday night gathering and we're borrowing Luther's very own title: Table Talk. If you would like to be a part of a Table Talk group that will meet on Mondays in May. Join us at 6:30pm for discussion

and even documentaries that help us learn from history. The documentaries will explore the dynamics that led countries down the road to fascism. We'll also explore the courage that gave the church a voice to speak out against evil powers. We are open to your suggestions and ideas.

LUTHERAN 101 Thursdays at 7pm

How does a 500 year old Reformation speak to 21st century Lutherans? Lutheran 101 connects the unique accents of Lutheran Christianity to faith in Christ today. This might be a perfect time for you to learn about Lutherans or to reconnect with your confirmation studies. But whether you're an old Lutheran, a new Lutheran, or just thinking about being a Lutheran, this might be the perfect time to offer a toast to good 'ole Marty Luther and bring the Reformation era up to date. Sign up or give a call for more info.



Mother's Day Out...

is currently enrolling for summer session which begins on Tuesday, June 10th. Classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30am-2:30pm during the summer months. Children aged 10 months through 10 years can join in the Fun and Learning! Call now to register—972-226-0523.



2025 Seniors

We will feature our proud Seniors in next month's newsletter. If we have not contacted you for stats, please email the church at oslmesquite@gmail.com or call the church office at 972-226-0510.

International Potluck Dinner

On June 8th at 11:30am we will have a true potluck of foods from around the world. We are encouraging attendees to bring dishes which reflect their family heritage from their country of origin or which reflect an adventurous spirit to try a dish they've never tried before. Label each dish and its country. *If possible, bring a small flag to identify the country.* Please use the sign-up sheet in the church centrum to indicate your participation in a Pentecost potluck party. We hope to see you there.

Birthdays

Date	Name
4	Eleanor Williamson
5	Marshall Hocker
	Bobbie NoLan
7	Gregory Folkmann
11	Ashlyn Williams
13	Shari Murphy
16	Paul Cross
21	Remona Kurt
22	Elena Bohling
23	Denise Bartosh
24	Brian Murphy
25	James Bartosh
	Sharon Skurda
26	Bobbie Jean McClatchey
31	Brynna Vannatta



May

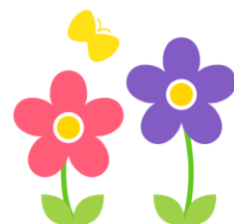


Wedding Anniversaries

Date	Years
9	Larry & Kathy Bohon
15	Jerry & Kaethe Combs
26	Jon & Beth Cook
26	Ken & Paula Hester
27	Steven & Kelly Belz
31	Tino & Theresa Williams

Baptisms

Date	Name
1	Glenda Hardi
2	Elijah Carrillo
4	Rigo Chavez
11	Tessie Murphy
16	Elena Conoly
	Timothy Murphy
	Baerbel Williams
19	Ann Williams
23	Harrison Helm
	Kirk Helm
	Charles Skyles
25	Christa Schelter
31	Paige Mckenzie



Worship Leaders for May:

Worship Assistant: Mike Phares Reader: Bonnie Johnston
Altar Guild: Debbie Zimmermann

GETTING "RED-DY" FOR PENTECOST—JUNE 8

On Pentecost, the color of the day is RED for fire of the Spirit and the power of the Church.

You can help make it a RED-LETTER Day by...

1. WEARING RED! Red slacks, red dress, red hat, red shoes, shirt, tie, coat, sock... Let's turn it into a crimson celebration and make it shine!
2. BRINGING RED FLOWERS! Geraniums, roses, carnations, caladiums, or anything from your garden, the flower shop, or even those wild flowers across the street! Bring a potted plant, arrange a bouquet, get cuttings from the florist, but help us "DO IT UP RED" to decorate the worship area.



Wear Red, Bring Red, and get Red-dy to celebrate Pentecost!

A PENTECOST EXCLAMATION MARK

With Easter a distant memory, the month of May is determined to keep Easter front and center in our worship. All of May and the first Sunday in June are Easter Sundays until June 8th concludes with a Pentecost Exclamation Mark! This red-letter day is a kaleidoscope of cultures, colors, and cuisines. There is no more flavorful Sunday than Pentecost and we are going to bring those flavorful cuisines to life with an international potluck luncheon at 11:30am. Pentecost is a day to cook something exotic, try something new, and taste a food from afar. We'll try to represent as many countries as we can with a potluck smorgasbord of flavor. That means no hot dogs, apple pie, or mac 'n cheese! We'll cross borders and travel to horizons of new culinary delights because Pentecost is a day to appreciate and experience God's exclamation mark of grace for all races and cultures!

May 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Each Sunday 10:00am Worship Service 4:30pm Worship Service				1 9:30am Mother's Day Out 7:00pm Lutheran 101 7:00pm Boy Scouts	2	3
4	5 6:30pm Table Talk 7:00pm Boy Scouts	6 9:30am Mother's Day Out	7 10:30am Sages for All Ages	8 9:30am Mother's Day Out 7:00pm Lutheran 101 7:00pm Boy Scouts	9	10
11 <i>Mother's Day</i>	12 6:30pm Table Talk 7:00pm Boy Scouts	13 9:30am Mother's Day Out 10:30am Communion at the Waterford	14 10:30am Sages for All Ages	15 9:30am Mother's Day Out 7:00pm Lutheran 101 7:00pm Boy Scouts	16	17
18 11:30pm Council Meeting	19 6:30pm Table Talk 7:00pm Boy Scouts	20 9:30am Mother's Day Out	21 10:30am Sages for All Ages	22 9:30am Mother's Day Out 7:00pm Lutheran 101 7:00pm Boy Scouts	23	24
25	26 <i>Memorial Day</i>	27	28 10:30am Sages for All Ages	29 9:30am Mother's Day Out 7:00pm Lutheran 101 7:00pm Boy Scouts	30	31

